

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUATEM 04204 061907Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 /094 W
-----073933 061909Z /46

O R 061842Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6630
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL BELIZE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
USMISSION USUN NY
USCINCSO

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 4204

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, UK, BH, GT
SUBJ: GOG ANNOUNCES PRESENCE OF BRITISH FRIGATE OFF BELIZE

REF: LONDON 11110 (NOTAL)

1. ALL GUATEMALAN MORNING DAILIES GAVE FRONT PAGE BANNER
HEADLINE TREATMENT TO GOG PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING PRESENCE
OF BRITISH FRIGATE OFF BELIZE.

2. TEXT OF RELEASE READS, "THIS MORNING (JULY 5) A 'LEANDER'
CLASS WARSHIP OF THE BRITISH NAVY ARRIVED OFF THE COAST OF
BELIZE. THESE NAVAL VESSELS ARE THE FASTEST AND MOST POWERFUL
OF THEIR TYPE, BUILT TO HUNT AND DESTROY HIGH SPEED SUBMARINES.
IT WILL FIGHT AGAINST NAVAL UNITS OF ANY SIZE, AGAINST AIRCRAFT,
AND AGAINST LAND TARGETS. IT HAS LONG DISTANCE RADAR AND
'SEACAT' ANTIAIRCRAFT MISSILES. IT HAS ADVANCED
SUBMARINE DETECTION EQUIPMENT AND A LIGHT 'WASP' HELICOPTER
ARMED WITH TORPEDOES. IT DISPLACES 2200 TONS; MEASURES
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GUATEM 04204 061907Z

370 FEET LONG BY 41 FEET WIDE AND HAS A REGULAR CREW
COMPLEMENT OF BETWEEN 250 AND 300 MEN.

3. "THIS THREAT TO OUR BELIZEAN COASTS CONSTITUTES A
CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF AGRESSION AND AN ABSOLUTE
VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS WHICH GOVERN THE
LEGAL STRUCTURES OF SOVEREIGNTY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLES."

4. IN AN EDITORIAL COMMENT ON GOG ANNOUNCEMENT
OPPOSITION DAILY EL GRAFICO SAID, "IT IS CLEAR THAT THE
ENGLISH THEMSELVES HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN THE RESULTS OF
THE NEGOTIATIONS. THAT IS, THEIR POSITION WILL NOT BE
FLEXIBLE, IT WILL NOT BE OPEN TO A RECOGNITION OF THE
RIGHTS OF OUR COUNTRY, BUT RATHER IT WILL BE THE SAME
THAT IT HAS MAINTAINED FOR THE LAST LONG CENTURY: AN
ATTITUDE OF PREPONDERANCE, OF DISRESPECT, OF HOSTILITY.....
THIS COULD PLACE IN DANGER ANY EFFORT TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING."

5. PRO-GOVERNMENT MORNING DAILY NACION ALSO REPORTED
THAT "IN LIGHT OF CERTAIN RUMORS THAT HAVE BEGUN TO
CIRCULATE AMONG THE POPULATION, THE DEPUTY CHIEF FOR
PUBLIC RELATIONS OF THE ARMY, COL. ROMAN ENRIQUE BETETA,
SAID THAT NO EXTRAORDINARY MOBILIZATION RELATING TO BELIZE
HAS BEEN ORDERED NOR ARE RESERVES BEING RECRUITED." THE
ARMY SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT NO UNUSUAL OPERATIONS ARE BEING
CONDUCTED IN THE PETEN, BUT THAT CERTAIN ROUTINE TRAINING
EXERCISES ARE GOING ON IN CERTAIN AREAS.
BOSTER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, INDEPENDENCE, NAVAL SHIPS, THREATS, INVASIONS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GUATEM04204
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770239-1267
Format: TEL
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770789/aaaaczbf.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fdbeb370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LONDON 11110
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1955437
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOG ANNOUNCES PRESENCE OF BRITISH FRIGATE OFF BELIZE
TAGS: PBOR, MPOL, PDEV, UK, BH, GT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fdbeb370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009